

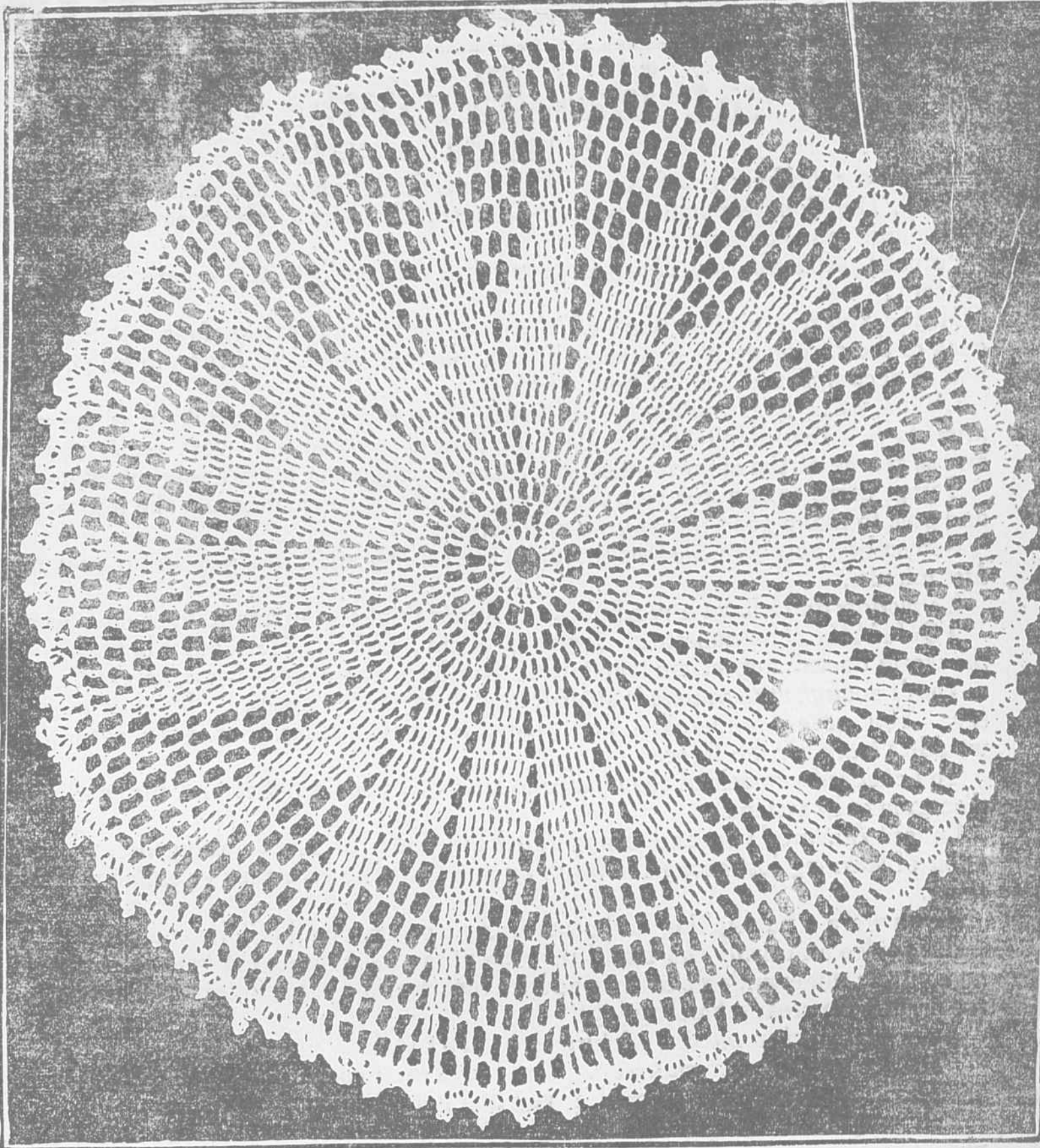
A Crochet Cover for a Table Mat.

As shown, this dainty mat, slipped over an asbestos mat, represents a day's work with the needle. No. 25 thread was used, but the pattern is quite as pretty with No. 5 and can be finished in much less time. Of course, like all crochet work, it can be made in odd minutes, and crocheting in moderation can be recommended as a rest for tired nerves.

For this star design, start carefully with a neat chain of 10, fasten securely in center, and fill with 17 treble, making a nice flat circle. Ch. 0, 3 of ch., forming a treble, 1 t., repeat 2 ch. 1 t. all around circle. For the second row 1 t., over 1 t., 1 t., 2 ch., repeat 2 t., 2 ch., around circle. Next repeat 3 t., 2 ch., keeping one side of the point straight and the other widening with 1 extra treble in each following row. When a count of 9 t. is reached, 1 t. is dropped from the side that has been widened, dropping one in each row and increasing the number of open spaces 1 each row until the pattern works out in a circle of open meshes.

Crochet all around circle of open meshes, 2 t., ch. 5, catch 2 stitches of chain with 1 single stitch for a pivot, 2 t., 1 t., 5 ch., in next mesh, then 4 t.

Underneath the scallop work three rows of open meshes and in the last row, 1 t. 5 ch. in each mesh. This will tighten the 3 under rows and the mat is slipped over the asbestos and kept in place by the under rows. The cost of mat is 10 cents; the cost of thread the same.



The Home Harmonious.

The Room for the Boy.

By Anita de Campi.

ANY suggestion of femininity should be as carefully avoided in the decoration of a boy's room as it is avoided in the choice of the boy's wearing apparel. No one would ever think of choosing for a boy's shirt material showing a large design of natural flowers in the pattern, or floral trimmings for his hats, and it is just as logical to leave out floral effects in the draperies and wall paper of the boy's room.

The shape of the furniture, the color used throughout, the texture of all stuffs and wood employed, and the designs that are brought into play must be stronger, though perhaps less graceful, than if they were to be put to feminine use. Lace and ruffles are no more appropriate at the windows, for example, than they would be on boys' underwear.

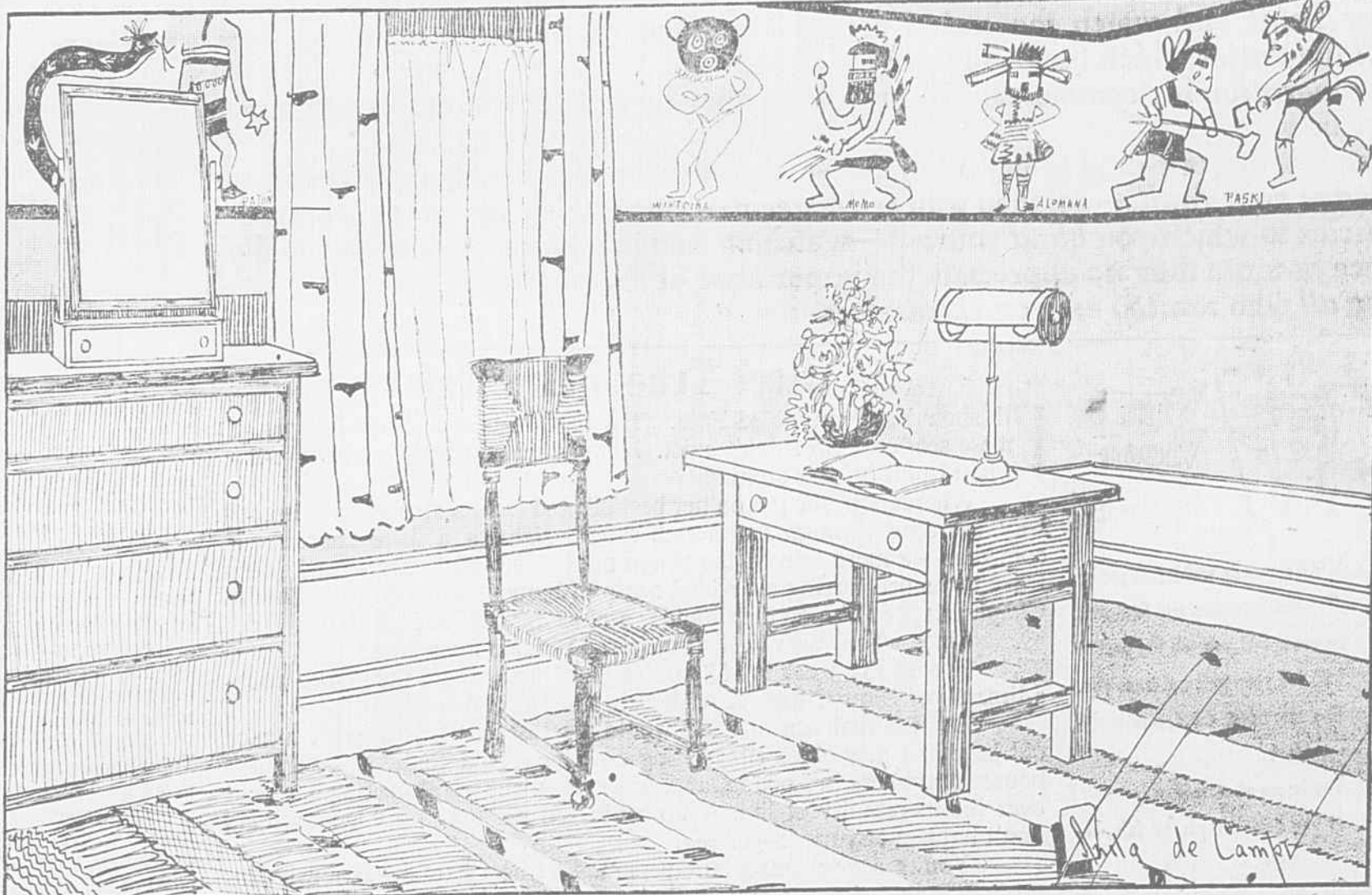
Walls should be either painted, calumined, or papered with paper in some inconspicuous design and neutral color. Rugs should be of a sturdy quality—velvets are out of place. Old-fashioned body Brussels makes good carpets for the boys' rooms. Plain filling is also good. Japanese matting is excellent and Clearfax rugs are ideal. If one can afford real Navajo rugs they can hardly be improved upon. The gray, black, and white ones are particularly desirable and are durable for generations if properly protected from moths.

Where large woolen rugs of any kind are used they should always be protected by having a sheet of moth paper or tar paper laid under them. This point should be given especial consideration when rugs are placed in shady rooms, halls, etc. The odor may be disagreeable for the first few days, but it soon wears off.

No universal is the feeling of sex superiority in the male person that the salesman has only to describe fabrics as "pretty delicate" or any other feminine sounding adjective to set the boy buyer violently against it. For his own use he prefers the descriptions, "strong, unyielding, durable," to apply to his purchases. Boys like stripes and checks and small conventional designs. Soft, clinging stuffs are their abominations. They like linen, heavy plain cretonne, crash, denim, monk's cloth, and burlap, and tabby dimity, chambray, silk mull, and all soft, transparent fabrics.

As the draperies are most often the starting point of the room decorations and afford perhaps more inspiration than any other one feature of the room, let us look over a few samples of the most suitable fabrics on the market, select the materials, and decorate up to whatever standard that material may imply.

Suppose the room is just a medium sized room. Whatever the decorative scheme may be the number of necessary articles remains about the same. There must of course be a bed. There should be a chest of drawers. This surmounted by a separate looking glass on a stand such as is shown in the accompanying sketch is preferable to a dressing table, as the latter smacks of the



boudoir. The chest should not be as high as a man's chest, in fact, the small mirror should be on about a level with the boy's head. It is for his convenience in adjusting his ties, and his collar buttons, pins, cuff buttons, etc., are to be kept in the usual drawer made to the mirror stand.

At least one large lounge chair should be in the room, and if space permits, two. A combination folding chair bed is nice to have in case your boy has a pal to spend the night with him. Do not have a rocking chair in the boy's room. There must be a desk or table. If this is to be bought new, the best selection is a table top desk. Boys like these best. It must be placed near the window with a chair or bench beside it.

Then there will be the bed with a spread to match the draperies instead of a white spread. There should be a bookcase, and if possible a small ventilated wardrobe or locker to hold sweat-

ers, tennis coats, bathing suits, bath robes, etc.

Straight line furniture in dark wood is the best. Plain oak, fumed oak, and walnut are good woods. Painted furniture is possible in boys' rooms if the color of the paint is deep. So that a miscellaneous assortment of pieces may be brought into keeping by painting all alike, a deep blue, maroon, brown, or even black. The edges of the wood may be trimmed with a thin line of paint in a contrasting color.

But to return to the drapery fabrics which are to inspire the treatment of the room—I have before me some good samples. The first one is a striped coarse linen. The stripes of burnt orange and ecru measure three-quarters of an inch each, and down the center of every second stripe is run a narrow black line. With this, natural oak furniture would be good and black furniture would be splendid. The carpet could be either

ecru or olive green, and the pictures framed in narrow black moldings. The bedspread of the linen is made of surplus length, so that the top edge is lapped back, has the pillows placed on it, and then the top edge is drawn over the pillows.

The next sample is identical in pattern, but fine in texture, and blue is used with the ecru and black instead of orange. Antique oak or walnut would be good with it. Walnut would be the better because of the fineness of weave. Black would also go well. The carpet should be gray. There should be a round yellow bowl to hold flowers. Men, I believe, care as much for flowers as women do. It is surprising how many men have standing orders with florists to keep a small vase full of fresh flowers on the office desk.

Stained furniture in some places is effective. A stout unbleached

linen, has a hand in several dull colors woven into it at wide intervals. The band has a design in it carried out in dull maroon, blue green, and tan threads. The furniture of this room is stained blue green, the woodwork is golden oak, and the rug wistaria.

In a room with mission furniture the draperies are of linen almost as coarse as burlap. The pattern shows a three inch band of olive green, alternating with a band of the same width that is marked off into inch wide tan and black checks. Casement curtains are made of this stuff, and the slash curtains are made of thin ecru crash. The seats of the chairs have loose cushions upholstered in soft brown leather. The bedspread matches the curtains. On the bed a bolster spread laid over the pillows is made of a single breadth of the goods, so that the lines in this run crosswise of the bed.

Translations of the avante garde by

Fresh looking in a buff colored room are the cream and blue checked linen draperies. The checks are nearly an inch wide in medium and dark blue. The furniture in this room is painted a still darker blue. A fourfold screen is covered with the checked linen on one side and the plain blue denim on the other. The bedspread and pillow spread are made of denim bordered with checked bands, as are the chest cover and slip covers for the chairs. The rug is of medium blue, with a large deep square woven into each corner.

Indian trophies and pictures are usually beloved of the boy heart. The accompanying illustration shows a room done in unique Indian style. The furniture is of the mission type, the rug is a Navajo, and the decorative frieze on a light tan ground depicts the Hopi Indians masked and costumed for the sun dance.

Translations of the avante garde by

and the whole frieze is hung low enough to be easily examined.

Pictures and decorations of educational value, even though they may seem a trifle "highbrow," are certainly preferable to the usual cowboy and Indian sort of thing. Indian stories really constitute our national folk lore, and as such are worth studying. The boy will be interested, too, in making a collection of Indian objects to add to his room. He will have a big earthen vase, a scrap basket of Indian weaves, a few Indian weapons, pipes, beaded smoking bags, arrow heads, etc.

As to the perquisites of the boy's room, they are few in number and notably essential, quite contrary to the girl's room, which is too often full of "frilleries." He needs a necktie rack, a dumbbell rack, a patent exercising apparatus adjusted to his door, a table lamp, preferably of the student lamp variety, or an orchestra lamp like that shown in the picture, and a good shoe box equipped with polishes, brushes, etc.

If the boy must have banners in his room, string the banners all on one stout cord, fastening the cord by means of picture hooks to the picture molding. This mode will save the wall from being defaced with many tacks and also allow of the banners being all sunned and brushed at one fell swoop.

Where rooms are plentiful, boys should be allowed two rooms instead of one. The first, as described above, is the regular room, corresponding with other bedrooms in the house, but the second (often enough in the basement) should be fitted up for the boy's pleasure with games, tools, gymnastic exercises, etc. But of that more later.

Answers to Inquiries.

M. E. N.: Yes, gray and green would be pretty in your color scheme. It would be well to have it paneled. Neutralize the green with the gray on your panels, using the gray for the border around it. See that both tones are kept in light shades. Go to the best paint dealer you know and rely on his advice in choice of paint for your furniture.

MRS. F. A. G.: For your white walls and mahogany woodwork, choose old blue and gray for colors of your kitchen linoleum. The patterns are good. The firm from whom you buy can best tell you about the wearing quality of the material. Some even give a guarantee for a certain number of years. If linoleum is varnished before it is used, it will wear longer than if it is left unvarnished.

MRS. H. T.: The all over cretonne for bed and dresser covers is much in favor at present, and I think attractive for the summer. Yes, use the muslin curtains for the windows. I think I would keep to shades of blue in curtaining, and to have touches of yellow in the other appointments of the room, candle shades and vases, etc. Dispense with the draperies between the dining room and living

Do so a